

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 12-26 are pending with claim 11 being cancelled and claims 20-26 added.

Claim Objections

Claims 11, 12 and 14 stand objected due to informalities. Applicants have amended the claims to obviate these informalities. Particularly, the features of cancelled claim 11 have been incorporated into claim 12, a colon has replaced a period at the first line of claim 12, and "or" is replaced with --of-- in claim 14. Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that these objections be withdrawn. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that replacing the period and substituting "of" for "or" does not narrow the scope of the claims.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 4, 6, 8-14, and 16-18 stand rejected over U.S. Pat. No. 5,969,861 (Ueda); claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 9, 13, 14, 16 and 18 stand rejected over U.S. Pat. No. 4,721,690 (Ross); claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 13-15, and 17-19 stand rejected over U.S. Pat. No. 4,618,538 (Emonts); claims 4, 6, and 9-11 stand rejected over U.S. Pat. No. 6,436,857 B1 (Brueck); claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 9-11, and 15-18 stand rejected over U.S. Pat. No. 6,468,935 (Mori); and claims 9 and 12 stand rejected over U.S. Pat. No. 4,123,731 (Kanbara). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

None of these references teach or suggest a glass comprising or made by adding together and melting, in mole percent, PbO, SiO₂, and >0 - 5% Al₂O₃ and ZrO₂, and being essentially free of TiO₂ (relevant to claims 1, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12). Consequently, these rejections should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-8, 10, 11, and 19 stand rejected as allegedly being unpatentable over Kanabara. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

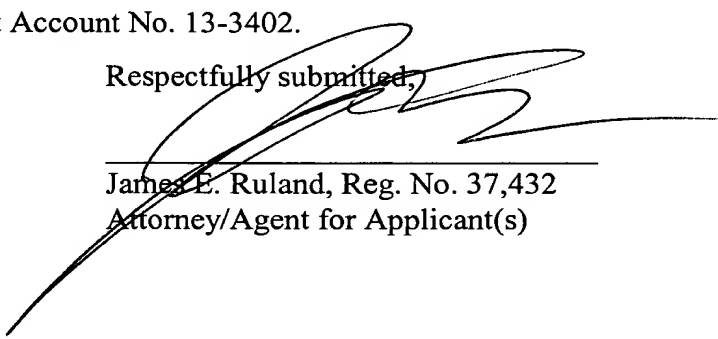
Kanabara teaches that its glass contains TiO₂. See Abstract. Kanabara fails to teach or

suggest that its glass essentially free of TiO₂. Consequently, there is no motivation for one of skill in the art to modify Kanabara to render the claimed invention prima facie obvious. Applicants respectfully submit that these rejections should be withdrawn.

In view of the above remarks, favorable reconsideration is courteously requested. If there are any remaining issues which can be expedited by a telephone conference, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone Counsel at the number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ruland, Reg. No. 37,432
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO
& BRANIGAN, P.C.
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400
2200 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22201
Telephone: (703) 243-6333
Facsimile: (703) 243-6410

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